



Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure

a periodic update on activities

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Milwaukee's Stormwater Park, a brownfield redevelopment project designed to handle runoff from 100 year storms in the Menomonee River Valley, was recently put to the test. In June the area experienced a 100 year event, and the park performed as it was designed to do. The large bioretention basins, normally full of native wildflowers, filled with stormwater. However, within a few days all of the water had infiltrated into the soils. Stormwater Park, designed to keep water out of the sewer system, features natural areas, open space, playing fields and a trail, and captures rain falling on the valley business park. The park was selected by the Sierra Club in 2006 as one of America's Best New Development Projects.



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On June 13, 2008 EPA released a memo, *Clarification on which stormwater infiltration practices/technologies have the potential to be regulated as "Class V" wells by the Underground Injection Control Program*. There has been some confusion surrounding the applicability of the UIC requirements (under the Safe Drinking Water Act) for a variety of infiltration practices, including rain gardens, swales, planters, permeable pavements and other controls. The memo and accompanying guide clarify the intent of the Act, and also indicate which types of practices are generally considered Class V wells and which are not. In general, EPA does not consider typical green infrastructure or low impact development practices to qualify as Class V wells. However, EPA is committed to protection of groundwater and also provides clarification on which practices may qualify as Class V wells. The memo and guide are available at: http://www.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/memo_gi_classvwells.pdf

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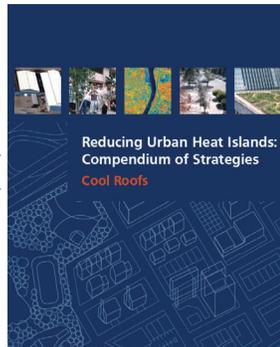
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For more information on managing wet weather with green infrastructure see the website at: www.epa.gov/npdes/greeninfrastructure. To be added to an e-mail distribution list for future issues of this bulletin, or if you have items of interest to be considered for inclusion in future issues of this bulletin send an e-mail request to molloy.jennifer@epa.gov.

EPA is planning a series of workshops on incorporating green infrastructure into municipal wet weather programs for CSO and stormwater management. These workshops are designed for communities that have already considered the basics of green infrastructure approaches, and are ready to tackle implementation issues such as revising codes and ordinances, setting up operation and maintenance protocols, developing performance standards, adopting local incentives, and setting up pilots. A workshop can be customized for a particular audience, depending on need. One workshop is currently scheduled in Chicago on September 4, 2008. Several others are tentatively planned. If your region, state or community would be interested in hosting a workshop please contact Jenny Molloy, molloy.jennifer@epa.gov. Communities making a commitment to green infrastructure approaches will be given priority.

EPA's Heat Island Effect program has compiled information on urban heat islands including, research, mitigation practices, pilot projects, webcasts, publications and more: <http://www.epa.gov/heatisland/index.html>. The program is also about to release *Reducing Urban Heat Islands: Compendium of Strategies*. The *Compendium* includes a series of publications on several topics, including *Cool Roofs* and *Trees and Vegetation*.



New Publications

Design Principles for Stormwater Management on Compacted Contaminated Soils in Dense Urban Areas. Fact Sheet. U.S. EPA. 2008. <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/publications/swdp0408.pdf>

Case Studies for Stormwater Management on Compacted, Contaminated Soils in Dense Urban Areas. Fact Sheet. 2008. <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/publications/swcs0408.pdf>

Partner Features

The American Society of Landscape Architects announced its 2008 Professional Awards. Award descriptions and pictures are available at: <http://www.asla.org/awards/2008/08winners/>. A number of honored projects include features such as green roofs, rainwater harvesting, wetlands, bioswales and creation and enhancement of wildlife habitat. The jury considered over 500 entries and selected 30 projects to receive awards. The awards will be presented on October 6, 2008 at the ASLA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Green Roofs for Healthy Cities also announced its 2008 annual Awards of Excellence. The awards are given to projects that exhibit exemplary leadership in integrated design and implementation. Descriptions and photos are at: http://www.greenroofs.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=1032&Itemid=136

Upcoming Forums & Events

Workshop on Green Infrastructure for CSO Control. USEPA. September 4, 2008. Chicago, IL.

Low Impact Development Workshop. Watershed Conservation Resource Center. September 4-5, 2008. Little Rock, AR. http://www.watershedconservation.org/LID_2008.html

American Society of Landscape Architects Annual Meeting and Expo. Green Infrastructure: Linking Landscapes & Communities. October 3-7, 2008. Philadelphia, PA. <http://www.eshow2000.com/asla/>

U.S. Botanic Garden exhibit *One Planet - Ours! Sustainability for the 22nd Century* is showcasing garden displays on the Conservatory Terrace and interpretive and sculptural displays in the National Garden and Bartholdi Park, Washington, DC through October 13, 2008. <http://www.usbg.gov/education/events/One-Planet-Ours.cfm>

International Low Impact Development Conference. American Society of Civil Engineers. November 16-19, Seattle WA. <http://content.asce.org/conferences/lid08>